

(DOCUMENT 15 — 1981)



ANNUAL REPORT
of the
BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
For the Year Ending June 30, 1980

TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Director, and Librarian

To the Board of Trustees of the Boston Public Library:

As Director, and Librarian, I have the honor to submit my report for the year July 1, 1979, to June 30, 1980.

In this year of mounting energy costs and increasingly severe budget constraints, the Library nonetheless witnessed positive developments in acquisitions, services, and modernized systems. In this latter area it should be pointed out how the Library's adoption of this decade's technology is contributing to heightened efficiency and cost-saving in record keeping, cataloging, information retrieval, and public service.

Most significant in this use of the latest technology is the installation of the new DEC System 2020, an advance supported by a grant from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. This computer allows the Library to move its bibliographic support systems from a commercial time-shared Digital Equipment Corporation PDP 10 to a dedicated in-house time-sharing system. This move was critical to further development of the bibliographic software and to make extensive on-line bibliographic data-file interaction financially viable. The Library administration hopes that the dedicated control system will eventually facilitate the transition from manual-based catalog systems to in-house and remote information retrieval.

In addition, with the installation of three IBM terminals, the Library moved to having on-line access to borrower related information. This move accelerated the search of the borrower registration file, master delinquency file, and master circulation file. The result is faster, considerably more efficient service to the public. This public numbers at this time 317,669 library card holders.

Other expedited service which can be credited to advances in technology occurred in the Microtext Department with the installation of new readers, reader/printers, and a Duplifiche printer and developer.

FY79/80 saw the major Research Library catalog project, funded by a Title II-C grant from the U.S. Office of Education, moving toward completion. The project has as its goal the total rehabilitation of the more than 7

million cards in the Research Catalog and ultimate listing on microfiche.

In another federally funded grant, the National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant, the Library was proud to reach its mandated three-to-one match several months ahead of schedule.

GENERAL LIBRARY SERVICES

Despite reduced staff in Central and branches, the Library maintained a high level of service to individuals and groups from pre-school child to senior citizen. In the face of impending cutbacks and the obvious need for current statistics, the Library updated studies of each branch unit in terms of staffing, population served, ethnic makeup, book stock, circulation count, and operation costs (salaries, books, heat, light, telephone, etc.). In addition, each branch conducted a four-times-a-day use survey during the second weeks of November, February, May, and August. One consistent finding among branch units was the diminution of night-time use by patrons.

Like the branch libraries, the Central Library proceeded with necessary evaluation of service, specifically with an in-depth study of periodicals. Considered in the study were problems of room arrangement, the binding of current periodicals, the evidence of much theft and mutilation, the use and relevance of certain periodical titles. As a result of this study, recommendations were made to drop many specialized/scholarly titles and to plan for more restricted use of current serials.

The activities calendar of the Central and branch libraries was highlighted with several key annual lectures and events. In the first annual Marjorie Gibbons Lecture, South Boston Branch hosted a lecture by Capt. Albert Swanson on Castle Island. The 2nd Annual Mildred Kaufman Program at Roslindale Branch was devoted to a slide sequence on the Boston Ballet, a special interest of Mildred Kaufman. Book award programs were held at South End and North End Branch Libraries. Retired children's librarian Martha Engler delighted young guests at the 4th annual South End program with storytelling. Speaker for the 32nd Annual Mary U. Nichols program at North

End Branch was Dr. Anthony Cortese, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Quality Engineering for Massachusetts.

Black History Month was observed in many ways: in Mattapan Branch Library, author Robert Hayden spoke on endeavors to resurrect some of America's greatest persons from obscurity; the branch also sponsored a demonstration, "The Art of Black Dance and Music"; Uphams Corner Branch offered special film screenings on such Black notables as Frederick Douglass, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Malcolm X; Grove Hall featured films and storytelling for adults by Linda Eubanks; Dudley Branch observed the month with "Cinematic Black History Experience." In the Central Library Dr. Walter J. Leonard, President, Fisk University, lectured on "Some Missing Pages in American History: The Black Contribution to American Life."

Activities and special programs and events in the Library were diversified in content and appeal. For the senior citizen or Never-Too-Late audience the range of programming moved from Social Security to literature to travel to the process of aging. To cite examples of such programming: traveler Stephen McCloskey spoke on "A View of Australia, New Zealand, and Southeast Asia"; Mark William Sheehan, Director of Development for Earthwatch, gave a rare view of African wildlife in "On Safari"; Ruth Harriet Jacobs, Professor of Sociology, Boston University, dealt with "Life after Youth: Ten Ways of Being an Older Person."

With equal diversity and awareness of patron's interests, branch libraries and Central reached out to children, teenagers, and adults. For children there were story hours, puppet shows, holiday celebrations, play production, film events—with books and reading always major elements around which each program was designed. Children celebrated the Chinese New Year with a traditional dragon dance, decorated eggs for Easter, and learned about farm animals from a 4H agent for Suffolk County.

Several lively programs were offered to young adults with films frequently integrated into teen events. Codman Square Branch conducted workshops for teenagers in cooperation with the Roxbury Comprehensive Commun-

ity Health Center; the Young Adult Room at Central sponsored its popular annual Creative Writing Workshop with guests: author Hila Colman, poet Elizabeth Galloway, and book reviewer Floyd Kemske.

The vitality and relevance of branch library program efforts deserve emphasis here. West End Branch Library sponsored two series (Summer and Fall) titled "Moving into Poetry." In these literary encounters, groups of adults explored the creative arts as inspiration for their own writing which they pursued (and shared) with diligence and delight. As Paula Posnick, the staff member directing the activity, described the series, "It encourages people to find and explore the many facets of themselves."

Adams Street Branch sponsored a program on "Understanding Your Aging Parents"; Jamaica Plain presented a psychologist from Massachusetts Mental Health speaking on "Educational Testing and Your Child"; Orient Heights held energy workshops; Egleston Square Branch Library featured an officer of the New York Housing Authority on protecting oneself from mugging; Faneuil Branch conducted a chess tournament; North End offered a presentation on wills and trusts; Parker Hill Branch joined with Affiliated Hospitals Center, Inc. to present "A Heart to Heart Talk" on heart disease. In deference to the multilingual backgrounds of many patrons, branch library programs were offered sometimes in other languages, with Spanish presentations, for example, at several libraries including Connolly, South End, Uphams Corner, and Egleston Square.

Major programs in the Central Library brought a succession of distinguished speakers to the Lecture Hall. In a remarkable two-day conference, "The Sacco-Vanzetti Case: Developments and Reconsiderations—1979," scholars came together "to assess the relevance and significance" of the Felicani Archive and other recently released papers. Donated to the Library by his sons, Anteo and Arthur, the Felicani Archive consists of thousands of papers assembled during the years of the historic trial by Aldino Felicani, who served as Treasurer of the Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee.

The eighth annual Maury A. Bromsen Lecture in Humanistic Bibliography brought the preeminent historian of photography, Beaumont Newhall, to the Library podium. Dr. Newhall lectured on "Photography and Book Illustration." The 15th annual Albert H. Wiggin Symposium assembled a knowledgeable group of panelists, Dr. Clarisse A. Poirier (Merrimack College), Katie Kenneally (Law Clerk to the Justices, Massachusetts Superior Court), and Martha Davidson (picture researcher and art historian). The panelists centered their discussion on the Library's pictorial archives.

In the seventh William Addison Dwiggins Lecture, publisher David Godine presented an illustrated talk, "The Life and Works of Rudolph Ruzicka, Illustrator and Designer." This major annual lecture, co-sponsored by the Library and the Society of Printers, marks the anniversary of the gift of the Dwiggins collections to the Library in 1974. Ruzicka illustrated many books including Whitehill's history of the Boston Public Library with "rare distinction and typographic understanding."

This year marked the launching of a program and special collection which promises much influence in the area of public education. In conjunction with the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center for Mental Retardation in Waltham, the Library acquired an extensive book collection, supplemented with films, related to mental retardation. To mark the beginning of this important cooperative program, Dr. Raymond D. Adams, Director of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center, spoke on "Contemporary Approaches in the Study and Care of the Mentally Disabled."

The programs here enumerated have proved instructive, sometimes unique, always an important dimension in library service. Also necessary to pinpoint here is the continuing evidence of the Library's interrelationship, involvement, partnership, reachout with community agencies, with colleges and universities. In addition to representing the creative voices and authorities behind books, the Library turns to contemporary contributors to knowledge in its programming. To cite a few cooperatively planned and sponsored programs: with the Boston Society

of the Archeological Institute of America, the Library presented Dr. Peter Wells, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Harvard University. Dr. Wells delivered an illustrated lecture on "Excavating in Iron-Age Bavaria." Moving to a more recent time frame, the Massachusetts Historical Society and the Library co-hosted the William Ellery Channing Bicentennial Lecture. Noted historian Henry Steele Commager addressed himself to the subject, 'Our Age is an Age of Moral Revolution.'

In still other jointly sponsored programs: Irish poet Desmond O'Grady gave a reading of his works (with the Eire Society); Paul Raabe, Director of Herzog August Bibliothek spoke on rare books (with The Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries). In other co-sponsored programs the Library joined forces with the American Lung Association, New England College of Optometry, Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Street Feet Workshop, Tufts University Psychiatric Unit, Boston Edison Company, Consulate of Chile, Masaryk Club of Boston and the Czechoslovakian Embassy, Child Study Association, Consulate of Denmark, Boston by Foot, the People's Theater of Cambridge.

FY79/80 saw the continuation of the Writer in Society series, originally developed as part of the National Endowment for the Humanities Learning Library. Guest speakers for these perceptive lectures on *belles lettres* were David Macaulay, "Buildingbooks: How an Author-Illustrator Puts a Book Together"; Millicent Bell, "The Life of John P. Marquand: A Fable of American Success"; Doris Kearns Goodwin, "The Johnson and Kennedy Biographies: A Study in Contrasts"; Ifeanyi A. Menkiti, "The Black Poet in Africa and America"; Isaac Asimov, "Escape to Reality"; John P. Roche, "The Scholar in Politics"; Robert Pinsky, "An Explanation of America"; and Boston's own poet, "An Evening with David McCord."

In branches and the Central Library, programs and exhibits gave testimony that the city was celebrating a birthday, Jubilee 350. Charlestown Branch joined Boston by Foot to present an architectural history, the "Four Shapes of Boston"; also at Charlestown, Bradley Clarke,

President of the Boston Street Railway Association, described three centuries of transit in a slide lecture. Fields Corner Branch sponsored a series of panel discussions on "Dorchester in the 80's" with focus on delivery of health care, the cultural scene, the press, housing, and business. West End Branch directed attention in its programming to key sites in the history of Boston—including the Public Garden and the Harrison Gray Otis House. Several Jubilee 350 programs highlighted the calendar of the Central Library, among them "Dearo Family," a musical about Irish immigrants in the North End.

Much of the Library's program activity was built around spoken presentations—lectures, panel discussions, conferences; but music and the arts were also featured, projected through concert and exhibit formats. Among the concerts offered were performances by the Radcliffe Choral Society, Chorus pro musica, New England Conservatory Chamber Singers, the Yale Russian Chorus, Boston Conservatory of Music, and the Longy School of Music. Other musical events featured Daniel Spiegelberg, French concert pianist from Geneva, and cellist Roberto Gonzalez and pianist Oscar Gacitua from Chile.

Many exhibitions served to interpret and enhance library collections and events. Exhibitions included: "Isaac Asimov: 20th Century Renaissance Man"; "Medicine in Boston, 1630-1980"; "Drawings and Prints by Paul Hogarth, Naoko Matsubara and Barbara Westman"; "Six Centuries of Book Binding"; "Working in Boston, 1920-1970"; "Judaism and Christianity in the Catacombs of Rome"; "Toys, Games, and Books for the 19th/early 20th century Child"; "Three Centuries of Constantinople, 1600-1900"; "John Quincy Adams: Pioneer of German-American Literary Studies"; "Space Revisited (celebrating the 19th anniversary of the Apollo Lunar Landing)"; "Americans in the 20th Century"; "David McCord: The Art of the Broadside"; "The Pilot of Boston" (on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of Boston's nationally-known newspaper. The most extensive exhibition was the annual Children's Books International which assembled more than 3,000 books from more than thirty nations. Interpreting the exhibit was a colloquium probing the conference theme of children and poetry.

This fiscal year marked the return of a permanent exhibition to public view. Cleaned and restored, the diorama of ten scenes from the Arabian Nights was created many years ago by Louise Stimson of Concord. Each exotic miniature scene depicts one tale told by Queen Scheherazade to King Shahriyar—as she charmed her way to survival.

RESEARCH LIBRARY

The rehabilitation of the Research Library catalog moved toward completion in its editing/maintenance phases with 1981 targeted as the date for the photoduplication phase.

The departments of the Research Library uniformly reported substantial increases in use and service in the face of diminishing staff and space. Humanities Reference noted a 7.2% rise in telephone reference and a 10% increase in in-person service, with October and April the busiest months. Tours (including 6 groups of regional librarians) and exhibit preparation occupied much staff time.

The Microtext/Newspaper Department continued, despite staffing and space shortages, in its multi-service capacities: in Microtext, the delivery of microforms to patrons, reference activity, photocopy center, patent reproduction center, and consultant service; the Newspaper Room in its delivery service to patrons in their diverse needs. An unseen role of the department relates to conservation/preservation—binding, wrapping, or microfilming newspapers for future researchers.

Acquisition of microfilm materials in FY79/80 strengthened library resources in many disciplines. To illustrate the range of acquisitions, among them: Greenwood Press's *Jazz Periodicals*; *English Cartoons and Satirical Prints, 1320-1832* (Somerset House); *Historical American Buildings Survey* (Library of Congress); *National Women's Party Papers, 1913-1972* (Research Publications); *Indian Claims Commission* (Greenwood Press); *Marburger Index* (Bildarchiv Foto Marburg and Reinisches Bildarchiv). The *Marburger Index* is an overwhelming pictorial archive of everything of merit in Germany—buildings, paintings, sculpture, artifacts.

As of this year the holdings of the Music Department

nudged the 100,000 figure (actually 99,713, not including rare collections such as the Walter Piston and Handel and Haydn Society collections which are in the Rare Books and Manuscripts Department). In addition to servicing this significant music library and providing extensive reference assistance, the department cooperated in the production of a Boston area composer's directory.

The Fine Arts Department devoted much time to collection development, working to fill in retrospectively major gaps in research materials. Major efforts were directed to strengthening holdings in exhibition catalogs, serials, specialized bibliographies, reference works, and microfiche items. Staff projects in the department included shelf reading of the LC portion of the collection, assisting in collection of data for the *Artist and the Child* catalog, retrospective indexing of one-man shows in Boston, continuing compilation of the Boston Art Archives and indexing of materials for inclusion in the Boston Architecture Index.

This year Fine Arts acquired many significant items through purchase and donation. A major gift included a portfolio of 43 prints by Boston-born artist Irwin Hoffman. The gift has since been expanded to include 73 watercolors, most of Hoffman's sketchbooks, and numerous books, journals, photographs, and exhibition catalogs. Several gifts were received by the Department related to architecture: files surveying downtown Boston from the Boston Landmarks Commission; surveys of Massachusetts from Massachusetts Historical Commission; and their architectural holdings from the library of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.

Beyond attention to internal organization, processing, cleaning, labeling, shelving of materials and services to researchers, the Rare Books and Manuscripts Department was involved in numerous other activities: receiving, checking, and storing the Treasure Collection of the Massachusetts Historical Society; preparing an exhibition catalog for *The Artist and the Child*; preparatory work for the Boston Public Library as host institution of the ALA/ACRL Rare Book Section Preconference; contributing to exhibitions of other institutions; and preparing a

series of exhibitions (cited under Exhibits).

FY79/80 brought a substantial number of significant rare acquisitions to the Department. Among them: *Taxae cancellarie sequunt* (Rome, ca. 1490); Pierre de Rosnel's *Le Mercure Indien ou Le Tresor des Indes* (Paris, 1672); Samuel Pepys' *The Portugal History* (London, 1677); *El triunfo de la Cruz de Cristo* by Girolamo Maria Francesco Matteo Savonarola (Valladolid, 1548); Voltaire's *Merope* (London, 1749); also, important Lincolniana items including a rare leaflet (item #1 in Monaghan's Bibliography of Lincoln) which Lincoln presented to the Illinois Legislature when he served as a member of the Finance Committee.

Science Reference this year acquired a microfilm and a microfiche reader which has made it possible to service all patent-related reference tools in the Science Reference Department. Program activities of the department included sponsorship of a Workshop on Patents and Patent Searching in cooperation with U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; a medical history program on the occasion of the annual meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine—with Dr. Philip Cash speaking on "Health Problems of the Continental Army at the Seige of Boston" and J. Worth Estes speaking on "Medical Skills in Colonial Boston"; and preparation and execution of program and bibliography on mental retardation in conjunction with the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Institute on Mental Retardation. The department mounted exhibitions on the lunar landing and on the history of medicine (described in Exhibits).

In FY79/80 Government Documents was responsible for the completion and distribution of the important tool, *Government Publications in Microform in the Boston Public Library/A Partial List, June, 1980*. The Department also conducted a workshop, "Sources of Marketing Information," in cooperation with the U.S. International Trade Administration. The need for additional shelving space became urgently apparent in FY 79/80.

Activities within Interlibrary Loan centered around making the service more efficient and educating users of this service. To this end several orientation tours and meetings with members of Eastern Region libraries were

conducted. The Department surveyed its responses to ILL requests from Massachusetts public libraries in one-week periods within each of four three-month time slots, analyzing the books requested in terms of location and availability. The Department found its services assisted and expedited by the distribution of the General Library book catalog and COM Supplements, resulting in more than 50% of requests now bearing call numbers.

Social Sciences Department undertook a major project this year: a bibliography of books, periodicals, newspaper articles (1930-80) on Boston history, events, personages. Also in process is a chronology of Boston events. Sound Archives continued its inventory of holdings, now counted at 192,344. This department also developed a closer working relationship with the Audiovisual Department in terms of evaluating and sharing collections.

PUBLICATIONS

Library publications were numerous and diverse this year. Among the booklists and bibliographies: "What's Up? Science and Science Fiction for Those Who Love It and Those Who Wish They Did," compiled by Mary Jo Campbell; a new edition of the popular "Boys and Girls with Hang-Ups," compiled by Catherine Clancy, Paula Todisco, and J. Ron Brown; "Special People—Getting to Know Them: Resources on Mental Retardation," an annual reading and film list with Introduction by Eunice Kennedy Shriver, compiled by Lilla Costello, Jane Manthorne, Ruth Marshall, Marilyn McLean, Euclid Peltier, and Beverly Spencer under the chairmanship of Suzanne Gray; "Black Is—1980," an annual list in celebration of Black History Month, compiled by Gwendolyn M. Crockett, Elaine P. McLean, and Karen L. Williams; "Children's Books for Year-Round Giving," prepared by Irenemarie H. Cullinane; "Books about China," compiled by Paula Hayes and May Lo and published in *Parents Choice* and *Episcopal Times*; a supplement to "Children with Handicaps," prepared by May Lo; "Books to Think By" (reading recommendations for grades 7-12), compiled jointly by staff members of the Children's and Young

adult sections, General Library. Once again the staff of the General Library put together a timely, comprehensive annotated list for the reading program of the Massachusetts Federation of Women's Clubs.

A highpoint in the Library's publication program this year was three books representing lecture series of the National Endowment for the Humanities Learning Library courses: *Humor and Social Change in Twentieth-Century America* by Joseph Boskin; *From Common School to Magnet School*, edited by James W. Fraser, Henry L. Allen, and Sam Barnes; and *Boston's Workers: A Labor History* by James R. Green and Hugh Carter Donahue. Each of these volumes contributes—as did the lectures on which they are based—to interpretation of singular forces or changes in American history.

EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM

Significant in FY80 was the passage by the General Court and the signing by Governor Edward King of legislation to increase the state appropriation for the regional library systems beginning in FY81. This long-awaited funding suggested an increased awareness in legislative/executive leadership of the needs and services of the regional systems.

In the Audiovisual Center improvements in service were provided by enlarged stack and work area, made possible in part by a federal Library Services and Construction Act grant; a cumulated list of feature films available for public library programs; and improved time management in personnel assignments. Interlibrary Loan service from the Headquarters Library showed an increase statistically, reflecting changes and improvements in a number of activities within the Headquarters Library. These include catalog searching, shelf checks, improvements in the reserve process, and follow-up on orders in Book Receipts.

A wide range of activities was undertaken by Eastern Region staff in an equally wide range of formats. More than one hundred and fifty appointments involved staff in field visits; office interviews and consultations; attend-

ance at conferences and conventions; planning and participation in workshops; and speaking engagements. In addition, staff shared in the preparation and distribution of booklists prepared in/by member libraries and arranged tours of the Headquarters Library for member librarians.

BOSTON LIBRARY CONSORTIUM

In 1979-1980 the Boston Library Consortium presented two major program series. The Preservation series of five programs included lectures by Paul Banks of the Newberry Library, Chicago, and Gay Walker, Yale University; a hands-on workshop by Doris Freitag, Harvard University; a tour of the New England Documents Conservation Facility in Andover; and a showing of related films. The second series featured workshops on AACR2 (Anglo-American Catalog Rules, 2nd edition.) The first workshop brought Paul Winkler to Boston to deliver a tutorial. Winkler is co-editor of the second edition of the catalog rules and is Principal Descriptive Cataloger at the Library of Congress. Subsequent programs were directed to Consortium catalogers as well as public service and acquisitions personnel.

Other Consortium activities included an update of policy relating to reciprocal borrowing; provision of an editorial function for the Consortium office; adoption of a serials petition procedure; and exploration of applications of automation to library systems in a cooperative setting. The U.S. Congressional Committee Prints on microfiche was selected for purchase as part of the Joint Acquisition Program.

BUILDINGS

Three branch libraries figured in building construction or renovation this year. The Lower Mills Branch, presently under construction, should be completed on schedule in September 1980. The Library joined with Public Facilities this year in preliminary discussions relating to a program for the addition to West Roxbury Branch. In still another branch-related program, the Library—with the assistance of the Boston Housing Authority and Public Facilities—decided on a location

(first floor, Old Colony Housing Project) and plans for a library reading center in the Washington Village area.

A matching grant was received this year from the Massachusetts Historical Commission to support a feasibility study for the restoration/rehabilitation of the McKim building. The next step will entail advertising for architectural firms to submit programs and cost estimates for such a study.

FY79/80 represented a year of continuing, stringent efforts in energy conservation with substantial cutbacks in energy usage in Central and branch libraries.

PERSONNEL

Staff activities beyond the Boston Public Library were directed to many fields. Kate Waters served as Chairperson of the oral history project of the Round Table of Children's Librarians, member of the Horn Book Council, and speaker at the Springfield Public Library on the subject, "Where are they? Young Adults and Libraries." Ms. Waters also served as panelist in a program on controversial literature for young adults, co-sponsored by Simmons College Center for the Study of Children's Literature and Lincoln-Sudbury School Libraries. Paula Posnick accepted a part-time teaching assignment at Lesley College titled "Creative Programming Incorporating Public Library Materials." Edwin G. Sanford described methods used in tracing one's family history in "Genealogy—Your Greatest Adventure," at an Egleston Square Branch program; Mrs. Suzanne Gray spoke on the Boston Public Library at the Alliance of the Unitarian Church in Sharon; Mrs. Gray also served as group facilitator at a Special Library Association Roundtable on "Research Strategy/Reference Interview: A Challenge in Communication."

Many staff activities related to acquisitions and processing. As a member of several professional associations, Martha Dukas participated in key conferences and programs related to Asian, African, and Middle Eastern materials. Stephen Yusko was actively involved in meetings of the New England Chapter of the Music Library Association and served as Chairman of the Continuing

Education Committee. As background to the Boston Public Library's move to an automated acquisitions program, Joe Raker attended the ALA preconference on acquisitions and also visited the University of Massachusetts to study their system. John Pelose served as Chairperson for "AACR2 and You," sponsored at the Boston Public Library by the Technical Services section of the Massachusetts Library Association; he also joined with Liam Kelly in a presentation on OCLC and Boston Public Library systems, a program also sponsored by MLA Technical Services. Gunars Rutkovskis served as panelist in a Baltic Studies conference in Washington, D.C. He was also involved in various meetings with representatives of area ethnical groups on library acquisition of their publications.

In other staff activities Rose Moorachian and Jane Manthorne addressed the annual conference of the Rhode Island Library Association; J. Ron Brown spoke on "Coming of Age in Novels for Adolescence" in a program jointly sponsored by Simmons College Center for the Study of Children's Literature and Lexington Public Library. Tess Cederholm continued to be active on several art/architectural fronts including service as Treasurer of ARLIS/NA (Art Library Society of North America), Director of the City Conservation League, and Vice-President of Massachusetts Committee for the Presentation of Architectural Records. Amy Rolnick served as Chairperson of YACBRG (Young Adult Cooperative Book Review Group).

Staff members of the Library contributed much to current literature as editors, authors, compilers, or translators. Irenemarie H. Cullinane served as Editor of the Friends of IBBY (International Board of Books for Young People) Newsletter; Judith Friedman as translator from the German of G. Mestwerdt's *Atlas of Colposcopy* (W.B. Saunders) and *Operative Obstetrics* by Gerhardt Martius (Stratton-Thieme); Suzanne Gray contributed reviews to *American Reference Books Annual*; Eva Murphy was author of several articles in *The Dictionary of North Carolina Biography*; Jay Daly, formerly with the Boston Public Library and presently Director of the

Lincoln Public Library, published his first novel *Walls* (Harper & Row); J. Ron Brown served as Editor of "Adult Books for Young Adults" in Bowker's *School Library Journal* with the following staff members as contributing reviewers: Mary Jo Campbell, Catherine Clancy, Sylvia Pascal, Amy Rolnick, Paula Todisco, Kate Waters; staff of Dudley Branch contributed a weekly book review column to the *Bay State Banner* and staff of Brighton/Allston/Faneuil wrote a weekly news column in the *Brighton Citizen*.

Several staff presentations were made in radio/TV programs. In Woman '79 (Channel 4, WBZ-TV) Sharon King interviewed children's librarians on how they can help parents develop reading skills in their children. Participating in five daily sessions were Lilla Costello, Jackie Hogan, Lucille LePage, Jane MacFarlane, and Jerrie Norris. Raymond Agler described the *Pilot* anniversary exhibition on WEEI. Students from Randolph High School interviewed J. Ron Brown on services offered to young people by the Boston Public Library. Marilyn McLean was featured by both Boston and Quincy radio stations in a description of the foster friends program at the Cardinal Cushing School and Training Center (formerly St. Coletta's) in Hanover.

These examples of staff contribution to various professional fields serve only as selected demonstrations of the range of staff expertise and contribution.

This year witnessed many changes in staffing through promotion and retirement. Paula Todisco was named Branch Librarian of East Boston/Orient Heights; Mrs. Helen Maniadis, Branch Librarian of South Boston/Washington Village. J. Ron Brown became Young Adult Specialist and Beverly Hall Spencer, Senior Reader and Information Librarian, in General Library. Among this year's retirees, seven staff members worked more than two hundred and sixty-five years in the Boston Public Library: Stephen L. Baxter, Bindery Foreman, more than 34 years; Frank P. Bruno, Chief, Book Delivery, more than 51 years; Anne Crowley, Children's Librarian, more than 42 years; Catherine A. Farrell, Principal Accountant, more than 35 years; Thomas P. Geoghegan, Superintendent of Library

Buildings, almost 20 years; Elvira G. Lavorgna, Reference Librarian in Fine Arts, more than 41 years; Louisa S. Metcalf, Senior Reading & Information Librarian for over 42 years.

In special ceremonies this year the University of Massachusetts granted an Honorary Degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, to Library Director Philip J. McNiff. The citation is included in full here, reaching—as it does—beyond the honored individual to do honor to the Boston Public Library, as well:

An alumnus of Boston College, Philip J. McNiff held major positions in the Harvard Library before becoming Director of the Boston Public Library in 1965. To these great research institutions he has given and is giving wise and dedicated leadership. At Harvard he helped to develop the concept of the undergraduate library, and the Lamont Library, the first of its kind, became a model for the whole country. At the Boston Public Library he has developed programs for the old and young, opening for them exciting new worlds to be explored through books. To "Phil" McNiff, librarianship means serving the entire constituency of the library. He has always put the needs of the users first, and has instilled this principle in all who have had the privilege of working with him. His vision has not been local; his friends include librarians around the world with whom he has worked on library problems that call for national and international cooperation. This honorary degree expresses the gratitude and appreciation of this academic community which benefits greatly from the Boston Public Library under the directorship of Phil McNiff—doyen of Boston's librarians.

Other honorary degree recipients on this occasion were Florence Luscomb whose life is called a "journey to create a just a peaceful world"; Andrew Young, a man of three, but overlapping worlds; and I.M. Pei, who "not only shapes our environment but creates the best in architecture."

TRUSTEES

This year marked the culmination of more than fifty years of dedicated service from four Trustees who completed their service on the Board: Msgr. Edward G. Murray, who served from 1958-1979; Augustin H. Parker, 1961-1979; Patricia H. White, 1972-1980; Frank B. Maher, 1973-1980. Named to succeed these retiring members were Paul Parks, Arthur F.F. Snyder, James V. Young, and Micho F. Spring.

With the submission of this annual report, we note a year of increasing austerity and diminishing staff and funding; but we note, as well, the undiminished commitment of this great library to public service and scholarship.

PHILIP J. McNIFF
Director, and Librarian

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Table 1. Circulation
BOOK CIRCULATION

	Fiscal 1978	Fiscal 1979	Fiscal 1980
Central Library.....	848,320	809,992	755,733
Adams Street.....	53,482	57,470	57,609
Allston.....	32,890	28,976	26,395
Bookmobile Service*	50,835	37,445	37,900
Homesmobile.....	—	—	33,194
Brighton.....	67,869	68,606	68,361
Charlestown.....	38,956	41,658	43,347
Codman Square.....	21,013	33,247	40,158
Connolly.....	28,179	28,231	27,079
East Boston.....	41,512	41,524	41,694
Egleston Square.....	22,896	23,218	24,049
Faneuil.....	31,162	30,924	31,117
Fields Corner.....	71,429	69,334	66,510
Grove Hall.....	24,478	25,419	31,829
Hyde Park.....	83,894	88,090	84,940
Jamaica Plain.....	42,938	45,968	46,308
Lower Mills.....	29,042	30,185	25,458
Mattapan.....	20,461	18,288	20,084
North End.....	30,453	28,500	28,373
Orient Heights.....	33,101	31,345	30,793
Parker Hill.....	20,461	19,475	19,933
Roslindale.....	71,770	70,652	71,940
South Boston.....	60,563	57,906	55,402
South End.....	27,086	24,986	22,305
Uphams Corner.....	28,593 †	26,773	28,242
West End.....	44,131	44,242	46,495
West Roxbury.....	115,211	123,224	124,115
Hospital Library Service.....	19,457	19,668	17,001
Multilingual Library.....	—	—	17,516
Total Branches.....	1,181,569	1,195,973	1,194,759
Total, Entire Library.....	1,979,054 §	1,998,965	1,950,492

* Suspended service March 30, 1977—March 6, 1978

† System of tabulating circulation changed to conform with other branch libraries

§ Library System shut down February 6 to 12, 1978 (blizzard)

Sunday service was suspended March 14, 1977 to February 19, 1978.

NON-BOOK CIRCULATION

	Fiscal 1978	Fiscal 1979	Fiscal 1980
Films.....	48,916	57,096	48,756
Recordings and Audio Cassettes..	70,072	61,871	64,732
Total.....	118,988	118,967	113,488

INTERLIBRARY LOAN

Books.....	20,180	15,863	14,689
Photocopies.....	—	126,391	130,674

Table 2. Growth of the Library
BOOKS

General Library:

Volumes added.....	176,573	117,944	119,394
Volumes withdrawn.....	8,987	18,337	10,352
Total on Hand.....	1,950,853	2,050,460	2,159,502

Research Library:

Volumes added.....	68,768	78,398	69,719
Volumes withdrawn.....	34	400	—
Total on Hand.....	2,521,831	2,599,829	2,699,548

Total Book Stock..... 4,472,684 4,650,289 4,829,050

BOOK AND NON-BOOK HOLDINGS

	Fiscal 1978	Fiscal 1979	Fiscal 1980
PRINT MATERIALS:			
Volumes.....	4,472,684 *	4,650,289 *	4,829,050 * *
Serial subscriptions.....	—	—	16,464
Special Collections:			
Rare Books.....	—	—	250,000
Rare manuscripts, letters, etc.....	—	—	750,908
Letters, books, etc. on Prints.....	—	—	2,607
Patents: USA.....	—	—	4,209,857
Patents: Foreign.....	—	—	2,178,696
Sheet Maps.....	—	—	302,500
Government Documents.....	—	—	2,030,022
NON-PRINT MATERIALS			
Cassettes.....	19,561	19,035	22,900
Audio-Recordings.....	225,238	234,246	238,472
Films, 16 mm.....	8,016	8,437	9,760
Filmstrips.....	577	588	621
Slide Sets (including lantern slides).....	4,884	14,884	17,934
Videotapes.....	—	—	489
Video Cassettes.....	—	—	161
Reel-to-Reel Tapes.....	—	—	1,902
Art Prints.....	59,254	59,254	162,915
Picture Collection.....	494,615	494,615	597,371 †
Postcards.....	138,065	138,065	148,999
Negatives.....	2,430	2,430	40,603
MICROFORMS			
Microcards (including aperture cards).....	52,491	52,491	52,481
Microfiche (sheets).....	422,286	492,932	583,120
Microfilm (reels).....	87,852	93,152	100,407
Microfilm (master negatives).....	2,430	2,430	40,603
Microprints(boxes).....	4,800	4,992	5,312

* This count excludes Rare Books

* * Includes Rare Books

— Inventory of this item not previously reported

† This is a partial total, inventory incomplete

Table 3. Cataloging Statistics

	Fiscal 1978	Fiscal 1979	Fiscal 1980
Volumes processed.....	245,341	196,342	189,113
New Titles cataloged.....	55,793	54,069	50,608
Original cataloging.....	8,288	10,794	7,596
NUC cataloging.....	5,044	9,637	4,340
LC cataloging.....	35,208	32,165	38,022
Rare Book cataloging.....	1,900	688	876
Films.....	419	421	1,323
Recordings.....	7,485	828	362
Cassettes.....	975	382	256
Sound Archives.....	—	9,055	5,860

Table 4. Binding

Volumes Bound.....	63,700	55,027	48,369
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Table 5. Library Expenditures

	Fiscal 1978	Fiscal 1979	Fiscal 1980
Salaries and Wages:			
City Appropriation.....	\$6,361,411 00	\$6,957,034 00	\$7,290,775 00
Eastern Regional Public Library System.....	550,021 15	558,677 00	570,577 00
Total.....	\$6,911,432 15	\$7,515,711 00	\$7,861,352 00
Books and Other Library Materials:			
City Appropriation.....	\$1,321,050 47	\$1,165,529 00	\$1,121,821 00
Eastern Regional Public Library System.....	681,086 23	680,968 00	669,741 00
Trust Funds Income.....	119,148 52	156,600 00	114,815 00
Library Services and Construction Act.....	76,179 85	44,956 00	154,308 00
Library of Last Recourse.....	144,723 15	144,731 00	144,737 00
Total.....	\$2,342,188 22	\$2,192,784 00	\$2,205,422 00
All Other Expenses:			
City Appropriation.....	\$1,528,677 53	\$1,709,372 00	\$2,028,801 00
Eastern Regional Public Library System.....	141,110 73	128,687 00	135,520 00
Trust Funds Income.....	54,999 52	52,233 00	51,306 00
Library Services and Construction Act.....	4,700 00	13,190 00	9,759 00
Total.....	\$1,729,487 78	\$1,903,482 00	\$2,225,386 00
Grand Total.....	\$10,983,108 15	\$11,611,977 00	\$12,292,160 00

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



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